

# MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

AMONG

**the State of Delaware, the District of Columbia, the State of Maryland,  
the State of New York, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania,  
the Commonwealth of Virginia, the State of West Virginia,  
and the United States Environmental Protection Agency**

REGARDING

## **Cooperative Efforts for the Protection of the Chesapeake Bay and Its Rivers**

WHEREAS, the Chesapeake Bay is a National Treasure for which we are responsible, due to our stewardship of the 64,000 square miles of land in its watershed, and the 111,000 miles of creeks, streams and rivers which run through our jurisdictions and ultimately into its waters; and,

WHEREAS, over the years the Chesapeake Bay's remarkable ecosystem has been impaired by the excess of nutrients and sediments flowing into it through its tributaries; and,

WHEREAS, the Chesapeake Bay Program, an internationally-recognized intergovernmental effort has made measurable strides toward the restoration of the Bay and its living resources; and

WHEREAS, that effort has been notable for its reliance on cooperative and consensus-based approaches for its greatest successes; and

WHEREAS, despite efforts to date, the tidal rivers and the Bay remain on the Clean Water Act list of impaired waters thereby requiring establishment of a total maximum daily load by May 2011 unless those waters meet applicable water quality standards by 2010; and

WHEREAS, we have developed a process, based on advanced science and data acquisition, which integrates the cooperative and statutory water quality programs applicable to the Chesapeake Bay and its tidal tributaries, and enhances through watershed-wide partnership the ability to restore the Bay's living resources and meet the necessary water quality standards;

NOW, THEREFORE, we, the undersigned executives representing the District, state and Federal entities with responsibility for the quality of the waters flowing into the Chesapeake Bay agree that we will:

- Work cooperatively to achieve the nutrient and sediment reduction targets that we agree are necessary to achieve the goals of a clean Chesapeake Bay by 2010, thereby allowing the Chesapeake and its tidal tributaries to be removed from the list of impaired waters.
- Provide for an inclusive, open and comprehensive public participation process.
- Collaborate on the development and use of innovative measures such as effluent trading, cooperative implementation mechanisms, and expanded interstate agreements to achieve the necessary reductions.

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By this Agreement, we will work toward our goals in a spirit open to others, welcome new ideas, pursue fairness and equity, seek the most cost effective solutions, encourage collaborative approaches, and always be committed to the common goal of a healthy and productive Chesapeake Bay and its rivers. We agree to report annually to the citizens on the progress toward achieving the goals of this agreement.

FOR THE STATE OF DELAWARE



Thomas R. Corpe

Signed September 2000

FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA



Anthony A. Williams

Signed October 2000

FOR THE STATE OF MARYLAND



Pat N. Glendon

Signed October 2000

FOR THE STATE OF NEW YORK



My E. Patet

Signed November 2000

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA



Tom Budge

Signed October 2000

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA



Jana S. Gilmore

Signed November 2000

FOR THE STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA



Rob Wise

Signed June 2002

FOR THE UNITED STATES  
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY



Carol M. Browner

Signed October 2000